

Saturday, March 27, 2004
8 p.m. Knox College Chapel

University of Toronto
Faculty of Music
Presents

COME YE MAKERS OF SONG

University Women's Chorus
Robert Cooper, conductor
Mia Bach, accompanist

with guest artists
The Oriana Singers
William Brown, conductor
James Bourne, accompanist

PROGRAMME

Combined Choirs

Angelus Ad Virginem

Thirteenth Century Chant
arr. Paul Halley
Ruth Watson Henderson

Come, Ye Makers of Song

The Oriana Singers

Laudate Dominum
Lift Thine Eyes
Quant J'ai ouy le tabourin

Egil Hovland
Felix Mendelssohn
William Brown

University of Toronto Women's Choir

Cantate Domino
Pie Jesu
Psalm 23
Hannah Rahimi, flute; Tyler Dunham, oboe

Gyongyosi Levente
Robert Evans
Z. Randall Stroepe

Combined Choirs

Ave Maria

Gustav Holst

INTERMISSION

Combined Choirs

Freedom Trilogy

Paul Halley

University of Toronto Women's Choir

Ave Maria
A La Musique
Ashley Simkiw, soprano

Francis Poulenc
Emmanuel Chabrier

The Oriana Singers

- Rose Trilogy
 1. A Red, Red Rose
 2. The White Rose
 3. The Lost Rose

Eleanor Daley

Combined Choirs

A City Called Heaven
Brenna Conrad, mezzo
 Ride On, King Jesus
Jennifer Kerr, soloist

arr. Josephine Poelnitz

Moses Hogan

UNIVERSITY WOMEN'S CHORUS

Soprano 1

Lauren Bird
 Brenna Conrad
 Laura Klassen
 Hsien-Mei Ko
 Christine Lee
 Joanna Leung
 Alicia Mighty
 Sarah Pomper
 Brooke Richardson
 Ashleigh Semkiw
 Christine Suh
 Tamara Vaughan
 Marisa Walker
 Amy Zampiero

Soprano 2

Raylin Barnsdale
 Julia Bentley
 Eva Branda
 Maggie Chan
 Julia Freedman
 Roseanne Greco
 Maegan Heller
 Heather Kentner
 Laura Kim

Dorcas Ko

Kay Kong
 Susan Lam
 Natalie Mak
 Jennifer Matys
 Myrtle Millares
 Megan Prashad
 Hallie Reynolds
 Anne Wong

Alto 1

Stefanie Baldassarra
 Leanne Bell
 Megan Chang
 Vivian Chiang
 Angel Chen
 Larissa Doherty
 Julia Forgie
 Grace (Eunhae) Ha
 Vavareh Hakoub
 Gourjianrad
 Diana (Hye-Young) Kim
 Minhyung Linda Kim
 Andrea Nagy
 Shannon Ng
 Andreea Olariu

Jade Wan

Charrisa West
 Christal Wu
 Kyongyeun Yuh

Alto 2

Rebecca Banman
 Maria Christina Chern
 Andrea Czarnecki
 Veronika Davy
 Glenda delmonte escalante
 Melissa Janke
 Tanya Krosel
 Allison Law
 Léah Lazonick
 Candice Leung
 Michelle Ma
 Laura Middleton
 Ann Pornel
 Laura Sweetman
 Amy Valyear
 Deyi Ye
 Yauheniya Yesmanovich

THE ORIANA SINGERS

Soprano 1

Megan Cugliari
 Margaret Dulude
 Sara Lou Henderson
 Mary Lee
 Maureen Louth
 Doreen Marriott
 Nancy North
 Bonnie Penfound
 Sarah Tyrrel

Soprano 2

Diana Chiarelli
 Susan Chopp
 Carolyn Edwards
 Dierdre Lawrence
 Susan Lewczynski
 Elspeth Lindsay
 Marion Rowe
 Wendy Visser
 Becky Voth
 Roberta Williamson

Alto 1

Dianne Ball
 Dawn Britton
 Enid Hardacre
 Joy Jukes
 Jennifer Kerr
 Mary Leask*
 Julia Lee
 Linda Locke
 Eshun Mott
 Thelma Tipping

Alto 2

Cathy Dawson-March
 Barbara Fleming
 Marg Garrie
 Jan Giles*
 Samantha Knights
 Marilyn Lamson
 Kate Rainsberry-Parker
 Jennifer Stokes
 Julia Topping

One of Canada's leading choral conductors, **ROBERT COOPER** began his career under the tutelage of Helmuth Rilling and Robert Shaw. He is currently the Artistic Director of the *Orpheus Choir of Toronto*, *Chorus Niagara*, the *Opera in Concert Chorus*, and is a teaching member of the Choral Department, Faculty of Music, University of Toronto. As a superb choral trainer and conductor, Mr Cooper also provided strong artistic leadership to the *Toronto Mendelssohn Youth Choir* for 22 successful years, influencing over 2000 young adult singers. Many of those singers have gone on to solo careers, while others are adding their own voices to various choirs across Canada.

Robert Cooper enjoys a distinguished career as a guest conductor and clinician working with many of Canada's leading choral organizations and provincial choral federations. He has had the honour of conducting the *National Youth Choir of Canada* and made his Carnegie Hall debut in 1997 for a *Celebration of Canadian Choral Music*. He recently conducted concerts with Symphony Nova Scotia and the London Symphony, as well as conducting Newfoundland's *Festival 500* and productions for Toronto Operetta Theatre. In addition to his work with choirs, he has been involved with the presentation of more than 80 operas and has been a frequent guest conductor with opera companies across Canada. Mr. Cooper has adjudicated the international choral competition *Let the People Sing* in London, England. He has also recorded CD's of both opera and choral music and provided choral backup for films and Stratford Festival productions.

Robert Cooper has served as President of both the Ontario Choral Federation and the Association of Canadian Choral Conductors and is on the Board of Directors of Chorus America. To complete the circle, He brings fine choral music to all of Canada as Executive Producer, Opera and Choral Music, for CBC Radio Two.

In June 2003, Robert Cooper received an Honorary Doctorate degree from Brock University for his significant contribution to

the Canadian choral community. In January 2004, he was appointed to the Order of Canada.

THE ORIANA SINGERS

We are committed to choral excellence that provokes a passionate response to the power, beauty and joy of song.

The Oriana Singers, one of the first all-female choirs in Canada, was formed in 1972. The choir endeavours to achieve and maintain high levels of vocal and musical excellence. Great care is taken to choose music suited to the female voice, to present music that has already earned its lasting position in the repertoire, and to introduce audiences to contemporary music including new Canadian works, some of which have been commissioned by The Oriana Singers. In addition to numerous concerts in the community, the choir performs three concerts as part of its subscription series.

Winner of many prizes and awards in Canada and abroad, The Oriana Singers was also selected by audition to perform at the 1989 and 1993 International Choral Festivals. The choir has been guest artist and has presented benefit concerts for many other worthy organizations. It presented a joint concert with the Victoria Scholars for the Association of Canadian Women Composers, and also participated in the 1999 International Festival of Women in Song at the University of Toronto. It was selected by audition to perform at PODIUM 2002, the national biennial conference of the Association of Canadian Choral Conductors, in Toronto in May of 2002, and recently presented a guest artist's concert for 'Music Mondays' at the Church of the Holy Trinity.

The name ORIANA is found in *The Triumphs of Oriana*, a collection of sixteenth-century madrigals with the common refrain, "Then sang the shepherds and nymphs of Diana. Long live fair Oriana." It was often used to refer to Queen Elizabeth I of England, praising her power, wit and beauty. THE ORIANA SINGERS chose this name to reflect a classic sound

while at the same time, of course(!), hoping to emulate Queen Elizabeth's power, wit and beauty.

William Brown, a native of St. Catharines, Ontario, was appointed Conductor of The Oriana Singers in the spring of 1996. Under his direction the choir has been national finalist and semi-finalist in the CBC Choral Competition for Amateur Choirs. Before joining The Oriana Singers Mr. Brown served as Artistic Director of the Woodstock Fanshawe Singers for ten years during which time the choir won first prize in the CBC Choral Competition for Amateur Choirs. He holds an honours music degree from the University of Western Ontario and while there, he sang in, and was manager of, the internationally known Faculty of Music Singers. Mr. Brown studied choral conducting with Deral Johnson. Upon completing his Bachelor of Music degree, he was awarded the Don Wright Scholarship for excellence in vocal music education.

Mr. Brown won first prize in the 1992 Leslie Bell Conducting Competition and in 1999 received the Barry Gosse Music Award for enhancing the life of the school and community through his music programs and performances. He was chosen to participate in national conducting symposiums with Eric Ericson of Sweden, Jon Washburn of Vancouver, and Wayne Riddell of Montreal.

Mr. Brown serves as President of the Association of Canadian Choral Conductors and was co-chair of PODIUM 2002, the national biennial Conference for the ACCC. He is also a Past President of Choirs Ontario. Mr. Brown teaches for the Toronto District School Board and is active as a clinician and adjudicator.

Pianist **James Bourne** is known both as a solo performer and as a collaborative artist. He holds undergraduate and graduate degrees in performance and literature from the University of Western Ontario. He also holds a postgraduate diploma in performance from the Royal College of Music, London, England. His studies have taken him as far as Belgium, where he was a student of François Thiry at the Conservatoire royale de musique de Liège. James' recent teachers have included John Hess, John-Paul Bracey (UWO) and John Barstow (RCM). James has been the recipient of numerous awards and scholarships, including Western's Alumni Gold Medal in 1996. In 1999, he was invited to the Banff Centre for the Arts as assistant coach/repetiteur for the Contemporary Opera and Song programme. In the summer of 2001, he was a fellow of the Tanglewood Music Centre, working under the baton of Seiji Ozawa for Ravel's *L'heure espagnole* and participating in concerts and master classes.

His work with choirs began with Dr. Victoria Meredith and the Faculty Singers at the University of Western Ontario. Since his arrival in Toronto, he has appeared with the Toronto Children's Chorus, the Bach Chamber Youth Choir and the Mississauga Youth Singers. Aside from his duties with The Oriana Singers, James works privately as an accompanist and vocal coach and has adjudicated music festivals across Canada.

